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functions. We like the plan of the book, which bears marks of care in preparation and cautious treatment, while the statements are made in a clear simple way, which will make the book of use to advanced college classes, but more especially to teachers. So vast at the present day is the science even of human physiology, so much has been worked out of late, that it is difficult to put in a convenient compass all the information which the student, and more especially the teacher, should have. Where it has seemed profitable, hygienic topics have been treated briefly, and in an appendix the subject of reproduction and development, with their practical bearings, has been well, briefly and sufficiently discussed. The book is sold with or without the appendix. The work is well rounded, comprehensive in its treatment, and as the latest work of the kind is commended to students as well as to teachers. The illustrations are good and sufficiently abundant; a fair number are original.

VERRILL'S CEPHALOPODS OF THE EAST COAST OF NORTH AMERICA.¹—This paper contains descriptions, accompanied by excellent lithographic plates, of the different cephalopods discovered in 1880 by the dredgings made by the Coast Survey and the U. S. Fish Commission. Until lately it was not suspected that we had such a rich assemblage of these interesting animals upon our coast, but thanks to the liberal spirit shown by the U. S. Coast Survey and the U. S. Fish Commission, government aid has extended and fostered the labors of the naturalists interested in these studies. All of the species mentioned in this paper, with one exception, are new to science; four of the genera are new, and all the forms inhabit depths off our coast from about 100 to 1632 fathoms.

The drawings illustrating Professor Verrill's descriptions were made by Mr. Emerton; the subjects are difficult to render, but probably no more truthful delineations of these animals have ever been published than these illustrating this brochure.

MINOT'S STUDIES ON THE TONGUES OF REPTILES AND BIRDS.²—This memoir consists mainly of a description of the soft parts of the tongue of the mocassin snake (*Ancistrodon piscivorus*), with the addition of observations on the tongue of the rattlesnake, the common garter-snake, with two lizards, chameleon and *Ameira surinamensis*, and the mocking-bird. Hitherto nothing has been

¹ Report on the Cephalopods, and on some additional species dredged by the U. S. Fish Commission Steamer *Fish Hawk*, during the season of 1880. By A. E. Verrill. Bulletin of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, at Harvard College. Vol. VIII, No. 5.

Reports on the results of dredging under the supervision of Alexander Agassiz on the east coast of the United States, during the summer of 1880, by the U. S. Coast Survey Steamer *Blake*, Commander, J. R. Bartlett, U. S. N., commanding. Cambridge, March, 1881. 8vo. pp. 17.

² Studies on the Tongues of Reptiles and Birds. By Charles S. Minot. (From the Anniversary Memoirs of the Boston Society of Natural History). Boston, 1880. 4to. pp. 20.

done upon the histology of the tongue of these animals, and it is a favorable sign that in this country where so little has been accomplished in histology, that these studies should originate here.

The paper is illustrated by a rather coarse but well-drawn lithographic plate, and photo-engravings in the text. The author's conclusions are rather long and technical for reproduction in these pages, but we can commend the paper as most excellent in its kind and of interest to the many who study birds, and especially so to the very few who are concerned with the reptiles.

NATURAL HISTORY OF COLEOPTERA.—Rupertsberger's "Biologie der Käfer Europas," which was acknowledged in the March number of the NATURALIST, will be of great assistance to the student of the earlier states of the Coleoptera. The European literature of this branch of Coleopterology has become quite extensive since the publication of the well-known catalogue, by Chapuis and Candèze, and it was always a difficult matter to ascertain whether and just where any particular beetle larva had been described or figured. The very handy, well arranged and carefully executed work of Mr. Rupertsberger, who was already favorably known as the author of several valuable papers on the habits and early history of European beetles, does away with the difficulty. The number of species enumerated, of which either the earlier states, or at least the habits, have been described is remarkably large when compared with the small number of Coleopterous larvæ described in our own country.

REPORT OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST OF NEW JERSEY¹.—The annual report of the State Geologist of New Jersey, Professor Cook, contains among other interesting information, a classified catalogue of the iron mines of the Highlands of the State. Also a geological map of the valley of the Passaic river and its surroundings. The upper part of the valley is supposed to have been a glacial lake.

The chapter on surface geology is full of interest. The author, however, rehearses a number of facts which had already been published by Professor H. C. Lewis in his paper on the Trenton gravel, etc., in the Proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy, and adopts a number of the views there set forth as to age of gravels, &c., but without giving credit to the earlier publication.

KINGSLEY'S NOTES ON CRUSTACEA.²—These notices contain descriptions of new species of crabs, with rectifications of synonymy and facts in their geographical distribution, based on the collection in the museum of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. The second notice is devoted to a revision of the fiddler-crabs or Gelasimi. The value of Mr. Kingsley's work on this genus con-

¹ *Geological Survey of New Jersey*. Annual Report of the State Geologist for the year 1880. 8vo. Trenton, John L. Murphy.

² *Carcinological Notes*, No. 1, 2, 3, 4. From the Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, 1880. 8vo. pp. 34-37, 135-155, 179-224.